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Austin, Texas

April 20, 1979

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE, SIXTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE, REGULAR SESSION,
STATE OF TEXAS:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14 of the Constitution of the
State of Texas, I herewith return to you Senate Bill 166 vetoed for the
following reasons:

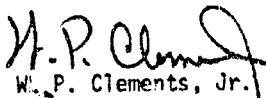
This bill which ostensibly started out as a "law and order" bill,
to insure that pawnshops not operate as a buyer or fences for stolen
property, was changed in the legislative process to one of protection of
existing pawnshops and severe restrictions on anyone else attempting to enter
the pawnshop business and therefore became an anti-free enterprise and special
interest legislation.

The bill, as presented to me, required that an individual have \$50,000
in the bank in addition to buildings and furniture and fixtures. At the same
time it not only exempted all current pawnshops from this provision, but to
whoever they sold it to or even gave it to would likewise be exempt in the
future.

Finally, the bill had the unusual provision that everyone who worked
in a pawnshop, including the janitor or clerk or anyone else, had to be
licensed. I know of no other business that requires that every single person
that works in a business has to have a state license.

For these reasons, I exercise my constitutional right to disapprove
of this legislation and accordingly, I am returning Senate Bill 166 to the
Senate unsigned.

Respectfully,


W. P. Clements, Jr.
Governor

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